

Remarks

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the review of the present application.

In the Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12-23 are currently pending in the application. Claim 24 was previously withdrawn. Claim 1 has been amended for antecedent basis purposes. Applicants cancelled claims 12-13. No new matter has been added.

Objections to the Specification

In the Office action dated March 25, 2008, the Office objected to the specification based on informalities. In their response dated September 25, 2008, Applicants presented amended paragraphs 13 and 16 pursuant to MPEP 714 to correct the informalities. In particular, Applicants amended "them" in line 8 of paragraph 13 to read "the". Additionally, Applicants amended the word "turbidity" in line 13 of paragraph 13 to read "turbidity", and "of" in line 11 of paragraph 16 to read "or", to correct typographical errors.

However, an indication of whether the amendments were entered by the Examiner was not included in the current Office action. Thus, Applicants have submitted these identical amendments in the current response and respectfully request they be entered in the present application.

Claim Objections

Applicants have cancelled claims 12-13, thus making the current objection regarding these claims moot. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the objection to claims 12-13.

Rejections under 35 USC §103

The Office action rejects claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-17 and 21-23 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,973,481 issued to Thompson et al. ("Thompson") in

view of U.S. PG Pub. 2003/0220717 issued to Underwood et al. ("Underwood"). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Thompson in view of Underwood fail to disclose, teach or suggest all of the elements of claims 1, 21 and 23. Specifically, amongst other elements, Thompson in view of Underwood fails to disclose an output sensor for measuring consumption of purified water output from the water purification device. No where in Thompson or in Underwood is an output sensor for measuring consumption of purified water output from the water purification device described, taught or suggested. Although the Examiner cites Thompson at col. 8 line 65- col. 9 lines 10 as teaching "measuring consumption of output from the generation device" (see current Office action, page 5, paragraph 2), Thompson at this cite teaches determining efficiency, not measuring consumption of purified water output from the water purification device, as stated in claims 1, 21 and 23.

Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants have shown that Thompson in view of Underwood fail to disclose all of the elements claimed in claims 1, 21 and 23 and therefore respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) over Thompson in view of Underwood. Applicants additionally request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-4, 6-10, 14-20 (please note, as discussed above, claims 12-13 have been cancelled) and 22 as these claims depend from a base claim which has been shown to be allowable.

The Office action rejects claims 18-20 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,973,481 issued to Thompson et al. ("Thompson") in view of U.S. PG Pub. 2003/0220717 issued to Underwood et al. ("Underwood") and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,568,416 issued to Tucker et al. ("Tucker"). Applicants respectfully disagree.

For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants have shown claim 1 to be allowable. Thus, claims 18-20 depend from a base claim which has been shown to be allowable and therefore, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection of claims 18-20.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons all of the claims of the present invention are patentable over the art of record. It is believed that all of the claim rejections have been addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully requested. If any matter arises which may expedite issuance of a notice of allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned, at the telephone number given below.

Applicants do not believe that an extension of time is required. However, if an extension of time is, in fact, required, Applicants request that the associated extension fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-4383. Applicants also request that any other fee required for timely consideration of this application be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-4383.

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Respectfully submitted,

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